



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SUNDREHAGEN et al.

Serial No.: 09/679,043

Filed: October 4, 2000

For: COBALAMIN ASSAY

Group Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: L. Cook

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action of July 5, 2001, in connection with the above-identified application. The period for response to this Official Action has been extended to expire on December 5, 2001, by the filing herewith of a Petition for a four-month extension of time and payment of the required fee.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-3 and 19 with the following amended claims.

1(Amended). An assay method for the determination of transcobalamin II (TC II) bound cobalamin in a body sample, comprising contacting a cell free sample of a body fluid with an immobilized cobalamin or an analogue or fragment thereof which selectively binds the apo-forms of TC II and haptocorrin, and subsequently contacting said sample with an immobilised or immobilizable specific binding ligand for TC II or cobalamin bound TC II (holo TC II), separating a ligand bound fraction from a non-ligand bound fraction and measuring the holo-TC II or TC II bound cobalamin content therein.

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